

Serial No. 09/894,356

In the Claims:

Please amend the application as set forth below:

Claims 1-19 (previously cancelled)

20. (currently amended) A tissue sampling apparatus, comprising:

a body comprising an outer sheath and having a primary lumen for receiving a tissue sample, ~~and having a distal end, a proximal end, and a longitudinal axis extending from said proximal end to said distal end;~~

a cutter disposed within said outer sheath and having a distal cutting edge and being movable both distally and proximally relative to said body; ~~and~~

an actuator comprising a trigger for axially retracting and extending said cutter;

a flexible band having an opening disposed therein and said flexible band being wrapped about the distal end of said body ~~a distal end of said tissue sampling apparatus~~ and movable for severing a distal end of a tissue sample received in said primary lumen;

wherein said trigger also moves said band in order to move said opening relative to said distal cutting edge of said cutter.

21.(newly cancelled)

22.(currently amended) The tissue sampling apparatus as recited in Claim 20 ~~21~~, wherein said cutter is selectively rotatable.

23-26 (Newly cancelled)

27.(currently amended) The tissue sampling apparatus as recited in Claim 20 ~~23~~, wherein said actuator comprises a cam nut for axially retracting and extending said cutter.

28.(previously added) The tissue sampling apparatus as recited in Claim 27, wherein said cam nut also moves said band in order to move said opening relative to said distal cutting edge.

Serial No. 09/894,356

29.(previously added) The tissue sampling apparatus as recited in Claim 20, wherein said body lumen is sized to accommodate a plurality of tissue samples.

30-40 (Newly Cancelled)